

September 14, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Mistrial declared in case of Detroit girl killed in clash over cellphone

"After sitting through days of deliberations for the man accused of killing her only daughter, Almada Talton didn't get the answer Thursday that she'd been praying for. But the Detroit mother vowed to 'stay strong' after a Wayne County Circuit Court jury failed to reach a unanimous verdict in the first-degree murder trial of the teen accused of fatally shooting Kadejah Davis, 12, in a January dispute over a missing cellphone."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Mistrial declared in shooting death that began over a missing cell phone

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Enbridge using courts for Michigan pipeline project

"A company is using the courts to secure land it says it needs for new oil pipeline project in Michigan. Most property owners along the project have reached deals with Enbridge Energy."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Daily Press & Argus: Enbridge using eminent domain for project

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Prosecutor gives Veterans Court program \$5,000 (second article)

"Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith on Thursday presented a \$5,000 donation to the county's Veterans Court program from his office. The program is designed to take into consideration problems and issues, including mental illness, substance abuse and homelessness, of veterans who are charged with crimes in Macomb County."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Patriot Week Festival to honor nation's principles (fourth article)

"The third annual Patriot Week Festival is noon-5 p.m. Saturday at Hoffman Farms, 2521 Rose Center Road. The festival is meant to encourage visitors to reflect on the country's founding principles and history, and to honor those who have served to protect it."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Judge to rule by Tuesday on Bashara bond request

"Businessman Bob Bashara -- honored Rotarian, philanthropist, Episcopal vestryman and lifesaver -- will pledge all he has and surrender his passport and driver's license for his freedom on bond, his attorney Mark Kriger pleaded Thursday in Wayne County Circuit Court."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Prosecutors: Bashara is still a 'threat to the community'; Judge to rule on request by Tuesday to lower his \$15M bond in murder solicitation case

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Court will hear arguments in medical pot dispute

"The Michigan Supreme Court is interested in the case of a man who was charged with crimes for giving free space to people to grow medical marijuana in Grand Rapids. There's no guarantee the court will take Ryan Bylsma's appeal. But the justices, in an order released Friday, say they at least will hear arguments."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Grand Rapids Press: Michigan Supreme Court weighs collective growing for medical marijuana in Grand Rapids case

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Should medical marijuana patients, caregivers be able to grow weed in a cooperative garden? Michigan Supreme Court to decide

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Mich. Supreme Court reviewing charges against Grand Rapids man who providing others space to grow medical marijuana

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Court affirms convictions in SW Mich. girl's death

"The Michigan appeals court has affirmed the convictions and sentences of a southwestern Michigan couple whose daughter died in a fire while restrained to her bed. The court found nothing Friday to upset the case against Anthony and Marsha Springer of Centreville in St. Joseph County."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Kalamazoo Gazette: Calista Springer's parents' convictions upheld by Michigan Court of Appeals

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Court keeps lawsuit alive over road dust in wreck

"Is a northern Michigan county responsible for road dust in a fatal wreck? The state appeals court says Manistee County can be sued over the condition of a road near Copemish. In 2010, Debra Hagerty-Kraemer apparently was blinded by dust stirred up by a passing vehicle on Litzen Road and smashed her car into a tree."

[Full story](#)

Crain's Detroit Business: Belle Isle Aquarium reopens to public Saturday

"The Belle Isle Aquarium will reopen to the public Saturday, seven years after it closed for lack of operating funds.... In July, Jennifer Boardman, co-chair of the conservancy's Belle Isle Aquarium Committee and judicial staff member for Judge Elizabeth Gleicher of the Michigan Court of Appeals, told Crain's the conservancy would seek to reopen the aquarium with the promise that it would cover all operating costs."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: State high court to consider rule defining 'court records'

"A proposed rule that defines 'court records' and 'public records' — and that would govern access to court records — leads the agenda for the Michigan Supreme Court's public administrative hearing on Thursday, Sept. 27."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

PROPOSED COURT RULES DEFINING "COURT RECORDS," GOVERNING PUBLIC ACCESS ON AGENDA FOR SUPREME COURT PUBLIC HEARING

[*Press release*](#)

Detroit Legal News: Wayne County Probate Court 2012 attorney training October 4 (second article)

"The Wayne County Probate Court will conduct its 2012 attorney training session on Thursday, Oct. 4 at the Auditorium in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 13th Floor (City Side)."

[*Full story*](#)

Lansing State Journal: Editorial: Justices take a refreshing stance

"It was refreshing — and surprising — to see Michigan's Supreme Court justices making critical rulings that did not follow explicitly the political positions of the parties that nominated them to the state's top court."

[*Full story*](#)

***This article is available only by subscription.**

Ludington Daily News: Wedding wouldn't keep Baby Kate's mother from testifying

"Community members who may be concerned that Ariel Courtland might not have to testify against Sean Phillips in a possible murder trial if they marry don't need to worry, an area prosecutor says."

[*Full story*](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Inn of Court meeting held

"The University of Detroit Mercy School of Law American Inn of Court Annual Meeting was conducted recently at the Detroit Athletic Club. Gathering for the meeting were Masters of the Bench with the Inn including... U.S. District Court Judge Patrick Duggan who was re-elected as president of the Inn; along with.... Wayne Country Circuit Court Judge Jeanne Stempien."

[*Full story*](#)

The Macomb Daily: Attorney who slept with divorce client receives reprimand from attorney discipline board

"An attorney — and former member of the Oakland University Board of Trustees — who was accused of misconduct after admitting to having a sexual relationship with a client received only a reprimand from the State of Michigan Attorney Discipline Board."

[*Full story*](#)

Also see:

The Oakland Press Blog: Is it Ethical for a Lawyer to Have Sex With a Client?

[*Full story*](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Jack Lessenberry Commentary: How to vote for judges

"You probably haven't thought much about this, but in addition to the candidates for President and Congress and everything else this November, there are dozens who want to be elected judges."

[*Full story*](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Plan to overhaul Michigan's public defense system hits Schuette roadblock

"The state Attorney General has stalled a plan to overhaul Michigan's public defense system.... But Bill Schuette's legislative relations director Alan Cropsey came to the hearing with a long list of concerns about the bill."

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Detroit Mayor Dave Bing: Balanced budget impossible without police and fire pay cuts

"... Parts of the city's consent agreement with the state that [Mayor Dave] Bing used to modify union contracts were struck down by an Ingham Circuit Court judge who said those powers were only afforded by law to emergency managers."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Appeals court upholds Muskegon armed-robbery conviction of Quantae Bailey

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has upheld the 2011 armed robbery conviction of Quantae Derrill Bailey, who held up a man in Muskegon. A Muskegon County jury convicted Bailey of armed robbery and a felony firearm count but acquitted him of assault with intent to murder and using a firearm to do that."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: High court, trial judges honored for jury reform

"Michigan's comprehensive jury reforms, and the Michigan trial court judges who tested them, are being honored along with the Michigan Supreme Court by the National Center for State Courts, the NCSC announced this week."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

NATIONAL JURY INNOVATION AWARD HONORS MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT, TRIAL COURT JUDGES FOR MICHIGAN JURY REFORM PROJECT

[Press release](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Supreme Court Learning Center offers webcasts, other educational resources for Constitution Day

"Educators looking for ways to observe Constitution Day with their students can turn to the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center for help. Federal law requires that all schools that receive public funding must teach about the U.S. Constitution on or near Sept. 17, the date the Constitution was signed in 1787."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

CONSTITUTION DAY IS SEPTEMBER 17; SUPREME COURT LEARNING CENTER OFFERS WEBCASTS, OTHER EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

[Press release](#)

Press & Guide/Dearborn: STATE: Anti-Sharia proposals about culture, not courts

"Attempts by various states, including Michigan, to ban Sharia law might not stand up in court and have more to do with xenophobia than legal worries, speakers at a Wayne State University discussion said Tuesday."

[Full story](#)

State Bar of Michigan Blog: Attorney Grievance Commission: "Sociopath" Is Not A Term of Respect

"It's a week in which public discipline of high-profile lawyers is in the news. Following a story in Crain's Business about the reprimand of attorney Henry Baskin for having sex with a client, the Detroit News and Macomb Daily call attention to the censure in July of Macomb County prosecutor Eric Smith for calling a notorious murder suspect a 'sociopath.' "

[Full story](#)